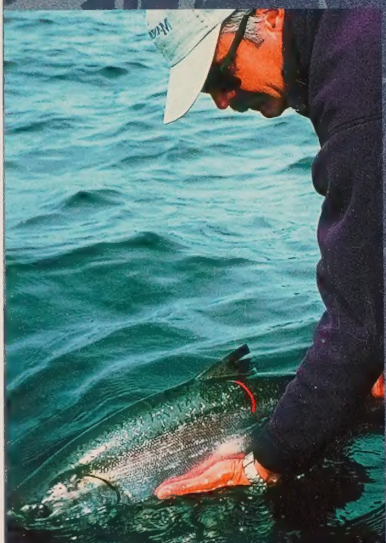
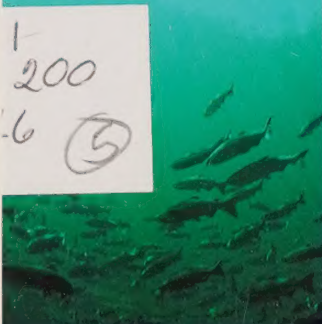


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FIC FISHERIES ADJUSTMENT AND RESTRUCTURING PROGRAM

Government
Publications



A PLAN TO REVITALIZE CANADA'S PACIFIC FISHERIES

Progress Report for Year Three
JULY 2000 TO JULY 2001

Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Human Resources Development Canada
Western Economic Diversification Canada
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada

Message from the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans



The third year of the Pacific Fisheries Adjustment and Restructuring (PFAR) program concluded in March 2001, wrapping up the delivery of several programs which have been in process for three years. Since the inception of the PFAR program in June 1998, the Government of Canada has invested \$376 million in measures to restructure the salmon fishery, assist people affected by the changes in the fishery, and protect and rebuild habitat. Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC), Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD) and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) have been working together in collaboration since 1998 to deliver significant programs to Canadians affected by changes in the Pacific salmon fishery.

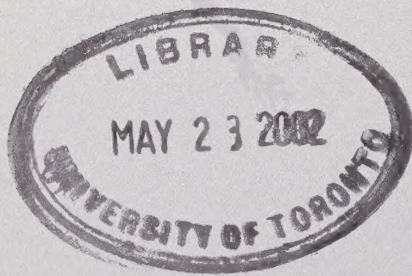
The PFAR initiatives are helping conservation measures work — building a strong foundation for the future — both for the resource, and for the people and communities who have traditionally depended on the resource. There have been some very significant changes over the last three years. Those changes are transforming and renewing the West Coast salmon fishery into a world leader for conservation and modern fishing practices.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work and professionalism of the people of HRDC and WD who delivered programs to help people and communities in British Columbia and the Yukon. In addition to HRDC and WD, INAC played a key role facilitating the delivery of these programs to First Nations communities. INAC ensured that information about the initiatives was communicated to First Nations communities and partnered with the other federal departments to ensure the program implementation took into account impacts on Aboriginal communities.

HRDC made substantial human resource investments for adjustment programming directed at impacted individuals and coastal communities. In addition to their regular program funding of \$250 million, HRDC invested \$30 million over a three-year period to support initiatives and programs that helped people adjust to the changes in the fishery; whether to prepare for employment outside the fishery, to supplement or replace fishing employment with alternative work, or to explore other adjustment possibilities. WD, through its Community Future Development Corporations in British Columbia, invested \$25 million to build local capacity and diversify economies in Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities along BC's coast, especially those remote communities hardest hit by changes in the fishery. This initiative was a resounding success, leveraging additional investments in coastal communities, and providing much-needed employment opportunities.

The Voluntary Salmon Licence Retirement Program reached a successful conclusion in March 2000. An audit of the program revealed that the program was well-managed and collaboratively designed with the input of stakeholders, and assisted the program in exceeding its reduction target of 50% of the fleet with equal reductions in all gear sectors. This reduction target was set by the Pacific Policy Roundtable in 1995. In total, the program retired 1,406 licences in three rounds for a total investment of \$195 million.

Changes implemented since 1998 are redefining the salmon fishery and contributing to fishery and community rebuilding throughout British Columbia and the Yukon. Thanks to strict conservation measures introduced in 1998, some coho stocks in British Columbia are improving, although serious concerns still exist, and the rebuilding period is not over. Stocks



of significant conservation concern in 2001 are Thompson River coho, West Coast of Vancouver Island chinook, Rivers Inlet sockeye and Smith Inlet sockeye. Upper Skeena coho stocks also continue to be a concern, but an improved outlook is providing for more flexible fishing arrangements in 2001.

Other PFAR programs will continue to deliver key programs over the next two years. The Selective Fishing Program has invested more than \$18 million to date to redefine West Coast fisheries. Selective fishing practices are an increasingly important element of Canada's fisheries, and are part of the long-term conservation strategy for rebuilding the resource and developing sustainable fisheries practices. In 2001, work is continuing on developing very specific selective fishing gear, research, implementation of demonstration-level fisheries, catch monitoring and training and awareness. The Fisheries Development (New and Emerging Fisheries) Program has invested \$3.5 million to date to assist First Nations, fishermen, and communities to reduce their dependence on salmon and develop viable, sustainable alternative fishing opportunities.

Most programs under the Resource Rebuilding component of PFAR will continue until the conclusion of the program in 2003. In February of this year, I announced the creation of the \$30 million Pacific Salmon Endowment Fund. The fund will be held in trust and administered by the Pacific Salmon Endowment Fund Society, led by community leader Rick Hansen. This is a focused and long-term approach to conserving and rebuilding salmon stocks. The fund's investment interest will be used in perpetuity to support salmon conservation in priority areas of the province. Now in its final year, the Habitat Restoration and Salmon Enhancement Program has invested more than \$36 million in salmon conservation projects since 1997/98. Of that total amount, Resource Rebuilding has provided more than \$21 million. Over the past three years, the Strategic Stock Enhancement initiative has expended nearly \$7 million, focusing on saving stocks in imminent danger of extinction, such as coho salmon from the Thompson and Upper Skeena rivers, summer chinook from the Puntledge River and sockeye from Rivers and Smith inlets. In its final two years, the program will focus on proactive measures, such as developing fish sustainability plans for key watersheds. The Habitat Conservation and Stewardship Program has hired more than 100 qualified individuals across BC and the Yukon to work with community groups, First Nations, landowners and local governments to promote stewardship and proactive habitat protection. This important initiative has invested more than \$23 million to strengthen the stewardship of watersheds.

Change is always a challenge, and progress can be difficult. The changes the West Coast salmon fishery are experiencing are no exception. I am confident that the PFAR program will continue to meet those challenges and prove to be instrumental in providing a long-term sustainable fishery for coastal communities and for all British Columbians.



OVERVIEW

In 1998, scientific evidence threatened to shut down the Pacific salmon fishery due to critically low coho salmon stocks in the Upper Skeena and Thompson River systems. Prior to the 1998 fishing season, Fisheries and Oceans Canada conducted extensive consultations in communities throughout British Columbia. The recommendations from commercial and recreational fishermen, First Nations, conservation groups and the public concluded that the Pacific salmon fishery would not survive unless fundamental changes took place.

In June 1998, the federal government introduced the \$400 million Pacific Fisheries Adjustment and Restructuring (PFAR) program, to be implemented over a period of three to five years. This coincides with the projected rebuilding period for critical coho stocks, which is expected to take six to eight years. The objectives of the PFAR program are to increase efforts to protect and rebuild salmon habitat; restructure the commercial fishing industry by further reducing the fleet and moving to selective harvesting and diversifying fishing income; and helping people and communities adjust to the changes taking place.

The PFAR program has been innovative in many ways, and provides an excellent example of how government departments can work together with clients to design and deliver effective programs that work for everyone. In addition to new programs that encourage conservation of threatened stocks and preserve biological diversity, the four federal partners have pioneered a new approach to the delivery of the initiatives under the PFAR program, stressing a collaborative and inclusive approach.

Many of the PFAR initiatives were designed in collaboration with stakeholders and coastal communities. The Federal Partners Steering Committee worked together with stakeholders, local government and coastal communities to design and deliver programs such as the Community Economic Adjustment Initiative (CEAI). Mayors and First Nations representatives were part of a community-based steering committee to evaluate proposals and administer funding for the CEAI. HRDC worked with its community-based Fisheries Development Centres to fine-tune programs to the needs of clients. Commercial and recreational harvesters and First Nations have played a key role in furthering the objectives of the Selective Fisheries Program. Participants in the program provided advice, evaluated, designed and approved selective fishing projects, and were an integral part of the policy development process. Stakeholders were also instrumental in the design and delivery of the Voluntary Salmon Licence Retirement Program, collaborating on the design of the program through a questionnaire, and by participating on the Advisory Committee which evaluated bids. The success of PFAR is attributable to this collaborative approach, both on the part of the four federal partners, and the contributions of municipalities, First Nations, local communities and stakeholders.

Pacific Fisheries Adjustment and Restructuring Program

Restructuring the Fishery

\$228.7 million over three years

This is the last year of funding for the remaining initiatives under the restructuring portion of the PFAR program. Funding for the Selective Fisheries and Fisheries Development Programs ends in March 2002. Other elements of the program have already concluded.

Selective Fisheries:

\$4.7 million in 2000/01 – \$18 million to date

Since June 1998, Fisheries and Oceans Canada has invested \$18 million towards the development of selective fishing practices province-wide in First Nations, recreational and commercial fisheries. This year, after successful investments in experimental pilots/projects, scientific research, catch monitoring, community workshops, program management, and program co-ordination initiatives; the Selective Fishing Program will be winding down, and continue the integration of new gear and practices into regular fisheries management practices.

Consultations with commercial, recreational, and First Nation's harvesters and anglers began in May 1998 to determine the priorities for the program. Since then, funds have been used to finance over 100 experimental pilot projects for those who fish to develop, test, and improve selective fishing technologies and methodologies. Seine proposals included projects with grids, revival tanks, fish sorting methods, and monitoring of operations. Gillnet proposals included work to compare web types, mesh sizes, revival tank modifications, and to avoid sea bird bycatch. As well, there were a number of other proposals submitted to do further work with alternative gear types such as fish wheels, trap nets, beach seines and dip nets. In addition to these projects, funds have also contributed to scientific research and monitoring by independent on-board observers to ensure that conservation objectives are

attained; increased enforcement to ensure compliance with selectivity practices; and training support for harvesters and anglers about effective selective fishing practices.

The Selective Fisheries Program is now entering its fourth year of policy development, implementation, dialogue, research, fishing experiments, and demonstration fisheries. The selective fishing policy for Canada's Pacific fisheries was released in January 2001. Fisheries and Oceans Canada intends to have selective fisheries standards, timelines and action plans established for every fishery by January 2003.

As the program winds down in 2001/2002, the Department will implement the findings of the experimental pilot projects into the Integrated Fisheries Management Plans and individual harvest plans. The Department will also continue to make five percent of the total allowable catch available for selective fisheries research and development. Workshops will also continue to increase awareness and skill levels of salmon harvesters regarding responsible and selective techniques.

Here are some examples of selective fishing pilot projects that have made a difference.

■ Revival Tanks

Proposals for this project were made in 1998. Revival tanks allow species of concern to recuperate on-board before they are released. Modifications have been made to the original design to ensure the best and quickest recovery of salmon. For this season, harvesters have a choice between the original design and the new improved revival tank, but one or the other is mandatory. It could be anticipated that next year, commercial boats would be required to use the redesigned tanks.

■ Fishwheel

Fishwheel pilot projects include Taku, Nisga'a, Kitselas, Gitskan, Sumas, Yale and Siska First Nations. The Yale Fish Wheel has proven to be successful. It has been found that the optimum speed for the wheel is about one revolution every 23–24 seconds and that the holding tanks could carry at least 300 fish without problems. The technology appears well suited to capture and release, both in terms of volume of production and ability to release fish without harm. The goal of providing training for technicians and viable long-term employment for the community has been realized.



■ Tooth Tangle Net

This project involved a small mesh gillnet that catches salmon by the teeth so that they can be removed from the net alive and bycatch can be released. The goal of this pilot was to determine the best mesh size and type for efficient capture, as well as the short-term survival rate of released fish.

■ Decreased Set Times for Gillnets

Gillnetters have been working together to test reduced set times with nets to avoid stocks of concern. In September 2000, the North Coast Selective Gillnetters Association and Simon Fraser University experimented with reduced gillnet set times while using the new "Fraser" style revival tank to determine the survival rate of coho. It was found that set times of approximately 30 minutes, combined with good handling methods increase the number of live landed salmon.

■ Seine Selectivity Grid

For this pilot, grids of various materials and designs were placed into the bunt of a seine net and tested. A catcher net was then attached outside the bunt with grids to catch and retain fish for sampling. The grids appeared to be effective. They allowed small or immature salmon and other species to swim out of the seine net without the need to lift them aboard. There is still more work needed to determine the grid opening size, shape, material and colour, however, it appears that this alternative has promise for releasing bycatch unharmed.

■ Avoidance and Release Techniques

One of the most difficult but important tasks in the coming year is to educate recreational anglers in proper catch and release techniques that will increase the survival rate of released fish, and accurate species identification. Several projects are underway to deal with this problem. For example, the Skeena River Recreational Catch Monitoring Program took place on the lower Skeena River. The goal was to determine the number of coho encounters while recreational anglers fished for chinook and pink salmon, steelhead and trout. The results of this project confirmed the selectivity level of a chinook fishery, where few coho were caught. The monitoring showed that the use of large #0 and #2 spin'n'glo lures in conjunction with barbless hooks made this a very selective fishery.

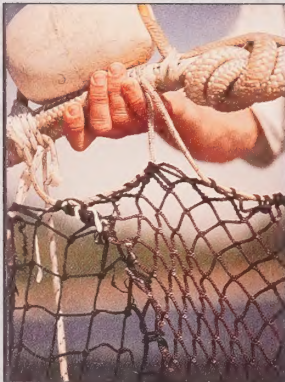
■ Seine Brailer

Fisheries and Oceans Canada has worked with fishing organizations to define a standard brailer to ensure consistency and promote increased survival of released fish. Other brailer designs are being tested that keep salmon in water while they are being lifted aboard. A brailer works like this: seine nets are closed or "pursed" and the trapped fish are removed by a large dipnet or brailer, while non-target species, such as coho, are released alive and unharmed. The brailers are constructed of "soft" knotless webbing that reduces abrasion on fish and increases the chances of survival.

Fisheries Development:

\$1.2 million in 00/01 — \$3.5 million to date

Considerable work has been done to explore the potential for the development and diversification of fisheries for under-utilized species. The objective for the new and emerging fisheries strategy in the Pacific region is to assist First Nations, fishermen, and communities to reduce their dependence on salmon and develop viable alternative fishing opportunities. The program encompasses new and experimental fisheries, the expansion of existing but under-utilized fisheries, increasing the value of these fisheries and the expansion of aquaculture to species other than salmon. Pilot projects for the Fisheries Development initiative include species such as, Neon Flying Squid, Sardines, Tanner Crab, Goose Barnacles, Abalone, and Varnish Clams.



Fisheries and Oceans Canada has developed a national policy for new and emerging fisheries and currently, Pacific region has developed a draft regional implementation framework to be used as the basis for consultation in the fall of 2001.

All new and emerging fisheries must meet stringent guidelines to ensure that conservation will not be compromised. Working in collaboration, the Department will conduct thorough scientific reviews and stock assessments to determine whether a potential fishery is ecologically sound, economically viable and biologically sustainable. The guidelines address the opportunities and risks involved in new and emerging fisheries and incorporate them into the decision making process. To facilitate the requirements needed to form a new or emerging fishery, a four stage process is used to ensure that decision making is thorough.

Resources for supporting potential new fisheries through the staged process are limited. A prioritization model is being used to decide which species should be included in the staged process.

"Invitations to participate" invite interested parties to submit proposals for the investigation of new species, the collection of biological data and market information, and for the development of business planning and risk assessment approaches. The proposals are required to include business plans that outline research, sound management and conservation approaches, as well as proof of financial commitment.

The stages are listed below:

■ **Stage 1: Initial Assessment** – Collecting Existing Information and Defining a Management Framework

At this stage no licences are issued and no collections are made. The objective is to identify what is known and not known about the biology of the species, its habitat, the gear types needed for harvesting, and about how economically feasible it would be to harvest the species.

■ **Stage 2: Experimental Stage** – Collecting New Information

Scientific/Experimental Licences are issued so that missing information on the key biological characteristics can be gathered. This stage should also evaluate if the species can be captured economically by particular gear types, to identify habitat impacts and multi-species interactions, and to provide advice on the development of assessment and management frameworks.

■ **Stage 3: Exploratory Stage** – Stock Response to Fishing Pressure

Experimental/scientific (exploratory) licences are issued and limited landings may be permitted to test processing methods and marketability. The objective is to determine the fishing mortality a species/stock can sustain and to collect biological data on stock abundance and distribution of populations.

■ **Stage 4: Commercial Fishery Stage** – Integrated Management Planning

At this stage a formal Integrated Fisheries Management Plan is developed in consultation with First Nations, the Province of BC and stakeholders. Licence terms, initial allocation and conservation limits will be defined and included in management regimes.

Work is currently underway on the following projects:

■ **Neon Flying Squid**

A catch allocation for 1500 tonnes (1% of the previous overall North Pacific squid landings) in 2000-01 was established for Neon Flying Squid. Due to unfavourable market conditions, there was no directed squid fishing in 2000 since licensed fishers directed their efforts to other fisheries.

■ **Sardines**

An experimental licence for 91 tonnes was issued in 1996 to look at the potential for economic development. Seventy three tonnes were harvested. Subsequently, six additional experimental licences were issued for a three-year period (1997-1999) to establish distribution and abundance, harvest and processing methods and market evaluation for Pacific sardines. The pilot was extended in 2000 for one year with a total allowable catch of 1,452 tons. The current project goals are to continue gathering stock assessment information and to further market development. A precautionary total allowable catch of 1,452 tons has been set for directed experimental harvest in 2001.

■ **Tanner Crab**

A three step development plan was proposed for deepwater tanner crab. The three steps are a trap survey by a small number of fishermen, a trawl survey to estimate abundance, and an experimental, multi-year harvest plan. Currently an experimental harvest of 100 tonnes is in place to provide information on biomass estimates based on the trawl surveys conducted previously.

■ **Varnish Clams**

The potential of this invasive, non-native species as an addition to the intertidal clam fishery is being investigated by surveying the populations, monitoring reproductive characteristics and test harvesting. Techniques for harvesting, storage and handling are being developed before decisions are made to include this species in the commercial clam fishery.

Licence Retirement:

\$195 million to date, program concluded

Between 1996 and 2000, Fisheries and Oceans Canada has overseen the reduction of the West Coast salmon fleet by 54%. PFAR's Voluntary Salmon Licence Retirement Program contributed to this reduction by retiring 1,404 licences at a total investment of \$195M. These licences represented 44% of eligible seine licences, 40% of gillnet, and 46% of troll.

The Voluntary Salmon Licence Retirement Program was designed to meet conservation objectives and reduce dependency on a fluctuating resource through a substantial reduction in the number of licensed salmon vessels in the commercial fleet. In turn, a reduction in the fleet increases the chance of achieving adequate escapement; it provides increased financial returns; and it reduces fishing costs.

Fishermen and stakeholders have long acknowledged the excessive size of the commercial fleet. In 1995 the Fraser River Sockeye Public Review Board recommended the formation of a consultative forum to plan the future of the salmon fishery. The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans responded to the report's recommendations and established the Pacific Policy Roundtable. The Roundtable was an industry-driven process that provided an opportunity for those who depend on the fishery to play a direct role in reshaping the salmon fishery. Participants in the Roundtable included representation from the three gear types, representing the commercial, gillnet, troll, and seine fleets, as well as representatives from governments, coastal communities, the United Fishermen and Allied Workers Union, Aboriginal groups, processors, and the Minister's senior fisheries advisory group, the Pacific Regional Council.

On March 29, 1996 the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans accepted the recommendation from the Roundtable to reduce the fleet by 50 percent and announced a comprehensive plan to revitalize the West Coast commercial fishery. An \$80 million Voluntary Salmon Licence Retirement Program (VLRP) was carried out that spring.

Two years later, on June 19, 1998, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada announced a plan for coho conservation, the Pacific Fisheries Adjustment and Restructuring Program, which also included a Voluntary Salmon Licence Retirement Program.

After consulting with salmon licence holders, Fisheries and Oceans Canada appointed an advisory committee, chaired by Mr. Jim Matkin, in November 1998. The independent advisory committee reviewed the submitted applications and recommended acceptable bids to the Regional Director General. And as a result, three application rounds were initiated, and 1,406 salmon licences were retired.

The voluntary licence retirement program has achieved the goal set by the Pacific Policy Roundtable in 1995. The total commercial salmon fleet has been reduced by more than 50% since the VLR program began in 1996. Having a smaller fleet means reducing fishing capacity, which, combined with effective conservation measures, risk-averse management, and improved stakeholder participation in the decision-making process, will create the conditions necessary for healthy coastal communities and a robust and diverse fishery resource.

| Gear Type | Eligible for 1996 program | Licences remaining after 1996 program | # licences retired 1998 – 2000 program | Eligible licences remaining | % retired since 1996 |
|-----------|------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Seine | 536 | 487 | 216 | 271 | 49% |
| Gillnet | 2256 | 1825 | 628 | 1097 | 49% |
| Troll | 1291 | 989 | 460 | 529 | 53% |
| TOTAL | 4112 | 3302 | 1404 | 1898* | 54% |

*This amount does not include commercial salmon licences held by the Northern Native Fishing Corporation or communal salmon licences, which are not eligible for licence retirement

Tourism Promotion and Awareness Campaign:

\$4.8 million, program concluded

Fisheries and Oceans Canada worked with the Canadian Tourism Commission, the Sport Fishing Institute and Tourism BC on a tourism and marketing campaign aimed at encouraging recreational fishermen to come to British Columbia. This included promoting conservation-based and selective recreational fishing at international trade shows, print advertising and public awareness programs.

Salmon Licence Fee Remission:

\$1.8 million, program concluded

In December, 1999 a remission of \$1.8 million was paid to 1,644 salmon vessel owners of record who were significantly affected by the closures in the Fraser River sockeye salmon fishery in 1999.

Community Economic Development and Adjustment

\$71.3 million over three years

Funding for the HRDC-administered Adjustment initiative, and WD's Community Economic Adjustment Initiative ended in March 2001. Other elements of the Community Economic Development and Adjustment element of PFAR concluded in 1998 and 1999.

Adjustment:

\$7.8 million in 00/01 – \$30 million to date, program concluded

The funds administered by Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) through the PFAR program were directed towards programs and initiatives that assisted in providing long-term sustainable solutions for individuals and communities affected by the changes in the salmon fishery. For HRDC, the challenge was to help individuals and communities find and develop new employment and economic opportunities. Initiatives based in industries such as tourism or eco-tourism, as well as initiatives that fostered new businesses, were all designed to ensure those who were affected by the changes had access to the necessary tools and resources to prepare for employment outside the salmon industry.



ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE MEASURES

Between June 19, 1998 and February 5, 2001 HRDC contributed a total of \$139.7 million towards assistance for British Columbians affected by fishery downturns, including \$117 million out of the department's regular programming budgets and \$23.1 million funded from the PFAR program. The funding enabled 200 projects to assist 9,294 individuals who were affected by the restructuring. In addition, a substantial (\$6.9 million) investment was made in assisting Aboriginal peoples.

At the heart of HRDC's contributions under PFAR were the program options that offered a cross-section of solutions to meet the unique circumstances of individuals and communities. They included **Targeted Wage Subsidies** for employers who planned to hire eligible clients to provide work experience and employment. There were the **Job Creation Partnerships** and **Term Job Creation** projects that assisted both individuals and communities get back on their economic feet and diversify their local economies through the support of initiatives like tourism, eco-tourism, aboriginal culture tours, or heritage and museum projects. Other projects enhanced campgrounds and hiking trails, and some were associated with waterfront recreational and commercial development. In total, there were 468 participants in these types of initiatives, representing an investment of \$6,988,575.

Assistance that made a difference

The Zamboni Man

It helps to be a self-starter when laid off from a job you've worked at for twelve years. Particularly a job you've grown comfortable in.

Lorne Parker had been the only shoreworker for Canadian Fishing Company's Campbell River operation. When Canadian Fishing Company downsized its Campbell River operations, moving nine of its twelve fishing boats to Vancouver, Lorne knew he had to take his future into his own hands.

His first step was to get accreditation and that meant going back to school. After three months of full-time schooling, Human Resource Development Canada (HRDC) started sponsoring Lorne. After finishing his courses Lorne worked at a company which supplies refrigeration equipment to industrial operations as diverse as pulp mills and grocery stores. He completed his refrigeration mechanic's apprenticeship with his new employer while working full-time.

Then out of the blue his hours at the refrigeration equipment company were cut back. But being the self-motivated person he is, Lorne soon had another full time job at the local ice rink. First, he had to get his Refrigeration Operator's ticket which an HRDC-funded agency called North Island Fishing Initiatives pitched in financing for.

Then in August of 1999, Lorne was hired full-time at the local ice rink. He is in charge of ice maintenance and drives the Zamboni, a specialized vehicle for helping to maintain a smooth ice surface. He has, he says, traded a view of the fishing dock for watching hockey games.

Under the **Self-employment assistance program** HRDC provided \$1,255,375 in investment dollars in support of 126 displaced workers who wanted to go into business for themselves. Through this program, a number of small business ventures were started and local communities expanded their employment and economic base. The **Training and Skill Development** component helped 848 fisheries clients upgrade their skills and education. They took courses that covered a broad occupational-training spectrum, ranging from health, education, the film industry, computer training, and clerical training. Others concentrated on literacy and classroom studies to allow them to pursue further occupational training. The HRDC investment amounted to \$9,670,015.

Many communities received funding through the **Local Labour Market Partnerships (LLMP)** program to support community capacity building activities. This program invested \$1,851,881 to encourage communities to become self-sufficient through support of local planning infrastructures and helped them take more responsibility for their own employment-related needs. HRDC also provided **Employment Assistance** measures to assist 7,522 people by investing \$3,249,941 in programs and services that provided labour market information, and career work action plans, with resume writing, job search information, financial planning, and employment program information.

The Department also contributed \$4,314,081 through the **Canada Jobs Fund** in support of initiatives that encouraged fishery diversification such as the growth of the fin-fish and shellfish aquaculture industries. Other projects involved value added/secondary processing of hake, dogfish, octopus, tanner crabs, and mackerel. And finally, HRDC's **Mobility Assistance** program offered \$37,338 to assist 24 individuals to relocate because they found work outside of their communities.

HAVE WE MADE A DIFFERENCE?

Programs of this magnitude inevitably have defining impacts on individuals. There is no doubt that HRDC, through regular programming and PFAR measures, helped diversify fishing income and encouraged many fishing industry workers to move away from dependence on salmon fishing to include other sustainable employment opportunities.

For some individuals the beneficial results were immediate and obvious, for others the adjustment process will take longer. Job loss can be more acute and problematic for the fishing industry worker who has worked a lifetime in the industry and lives in a remote area of the BC coast. Unlike other occupations, many of these individuals have few transferable skills to another job setting. The investments made by HRDC helped people move out of the fishing industry, and provided enhanced skills/added work experience for those who chose to remain there.

Similarly, communities were able to develop their own in-house capacity and expertise to deal with local labour market adjustment issues. Development of entrepreneurial skills was encouraged, as was the provision of work experience for individuals through community job creation projects. The net result of PFAR has been sustained economic growth. This has transpired through the diversification of the seafood sector, tourism/eco-tourism, and value added processing and manufacturing. Moreover, many coastal towns are now progressing with new or improved community infrastructures.

THE FUTURE

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is forecasting a slightly better salmon season in 2001 for BC commercial fishermen. However, conservation will continue to be the driving force behind West Coast salmon management plans. Continued improvement in the survival of salmon stocks will mean less demand for adjustment interventions over the next several months.

Next steps for HRDC include continuing to address the needs of individuals, communities and levels of government in the broader labour market context to enhance the skills of the work force and assist communities identify new employment opportunities. To ensure clients have access to programs and services information, HRDC will reach-out to remote and non-urban communities by using advanced information and communications technologies. In addition, the Pacific Region's Labour Market Services Consultants will continue to work closely with the fishing sector to address human resource-labour market adjustment issues. In this context HRDC will continue to use existing programs and resources within the co-managed Labour Market Development Agreement with the Province of BC.

HRDC will also continue its dialogue with aboriginal communities and help them develop the expertise and the capacity to deal with labour-market adjustment issues. To that end, HRDC will work with the Aboriginal Human Resources Development Structures (AHRDS), representatives of coastal Aboriginal communities, who will participate along with other federal departments, including their current partner — Fisheries and Oceans Canada, in the First Nation Fisheries Policy Dialogue Steering Committee. HRDC's purpose will be to identify solutions that will bring about positive changes to their social and economic difficulties.

The successes of the PFAR strategy throughout the West Coast have been the result of the strong working relationship and collaborative efforts of individuals, fishing unions, and various fishing organisations, as well as other government agencies and community leaders. This collaborative strategy has made a small but definitive difference, especially in the lives of individuals and coastal communities who bore the brunt of the restructuring of the West Coast salmon fishery. Many people have indicated that they have benefited from the programs and services, which were supported by HRDC.

HRDC's PFAR initiative ended on 31 March 2001. However, HRDC's service in the coastal region continues and the Department remains committed to working with individuals and communities who continued to be affected by issues in the salmon fishery.

Assistance that made a difference

A Feather In Her Cap

Gwen Mutter's story has a happy ending. Until recently, Gwen's life was that of a single mother struggling to make ends meet with two part-time jobs. She followed in the footsteps of her First Nations parents, getting seasonal work fishing and winter work in the food services industry. Gwen had tried her hand at opening a restaurant in Parksville. But the restaurant soon went out of business. "I did not have the skills to run a successful business then," says Gwen who had all the desire and some of the cooking expertise but not bookkeeping and management knowledge.

The failed business was just one hurdle that Gwen would face. Shortly after she became ill with cancer and returned to her family to recuperate. Just as her life seemed at its lowest ebb, Gwen's fate began to turn around. "I have a huge family and a few of them approached me to do the catering for their weddings," she said. "And then I saw this empty commercial building where I could set up. It almost was laid in my lap."

These events were the sparks that re-ignited Gwen's ambition to begin building a new business—her own catering company. She was able to enroll in a Self-Employment grant program under the aegis of the Federal Fisheries Restructuring Adjustment Strategy to get entrepreneurial training. So far she has completed Safe Food Handling, Basic Computer and Windows 95 as well as Entrepreneur courses.

In between courses, Gwen managed three major functions. One was a barbecue for 250 people, and the other two were weddings for 150 to 250 people. With these successes behind her, Gwen's plans expanded. She constantly experiments with new food recipes, trying them out on house guests. She has been building a photographic portfolio of her work. And through some volunteer work with a group of elders in her community she has made the contacts to take on the biggest catering job of her life. "There will be a big conference of elders, with between 800 and 2000 people. I have been asked to be head cook. This will be a big feather in my cap," she said proudly.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT INITIATIVE (CEAI)

\$10.1 million in 00/01 – \$25 million to date, program concluded

HELPING PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES ADJUST

After a little over two years, it's time for Western Economic Diversification Canada and the community volunteers on the CEAI Steering Committee to take stock of their accomplishments. The mission: fund projects in B.C.'s coastal Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities that result in long-term, local, regional and coastal strategic investments and community transition from the salmon fishery to alternative and sustainable economic activities; a formal turn of phrase for "helping people and communities adjust", one of PFAR's three broad initiatives.

THE APPROACH

To deliver the CEAI, Minister Duhamel opted for a novel approach: a locally-based, decision-making steering committee made up of local elected officials (four mayors), Aboriginals (four), four representatives of the coastal Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDC), who delivered the program locally, and four representatives of the Government of Canada drawn from the federal partners who deliver PFAR. In the last year of the program, two officials from the Government of British Columbia joined the CEAI Steering Committee at the invitation of the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

THE RESULTS

Over the course of two years and twelve quarterly review meetings, the CEAI Steering Committee approved 102 community projects, a total federal investment of \$19, 526,273.95

The first community project the Steering Committee approved at its first review meeting on June 18, 1999, the 'Umista Cultural Centre Expansion, was an indication of things to come:

- The 'Umista Cultural Centre, on Cormorant Island, is in a small, hard-hit community.
 - The CEAI has invested more than \$13.8 million or 70.8 per cent of total program investment in small communities hard hit by the downturn in the salmon fishery.
- 'Umista is an Aboriginal project.
 - Fifty per cent of all the projects approved by the Steering Committee went to Aboriginal communities or projects.
- The 'Umista Cultural Society raised \$408,000 of the total cost of the project. The CEAI's \$250,000 non-repayable contribution represented 38 per cent of all funds raised by the community.
 - The CEAI has helped people and communities adjust by leveraging more than \$48 million in additional local, federal and provincial investments; more than \$67.5 million was thus invested in coastal communities.
- The Centre will employ local people from Alert Bay and attract more visitors to North Vancouver Island and thus improve the tourism sector in the area. Tourism infrastructure leads to long-term, sustainable economic development and job creation.
 - More than 50 per cent of the community projects approved under the CEAI were tourism related.

"Priority has been placed consistently upon supporting communities to formulate bottom-up driven solutions. The federal government will work cooperatively with the Steering Committee in support of community and coast-wide adjustment projects."

—The Honourable Ron J. Duhamel
Nanaimo, January 12, 1999

"WD's CEAI made the anchor contribution. They were the first to provide tangible support. As a result, we were able to generate real interest."

—Chris Knight
I/c Partnerships, Funding and Planning
Kitselas First Nation

THE KITSELAS CANYON HISTORIC SITE: BRINGING 4,000 YEARS OF HISTORY TO LIFE TAKES PARTNERSHIPS

Western Economic Diversification's Community Economic Adjustment Initiative made a non-repayable contribution of \$250,000, or 37.9 per cent of the total project costs of \$658 050, to make a long-held dream a reality.

Kitselas Canyon is one of the natural and cultural jewels of Northwestern BC. It rests in the heart of the Kitselas First Nation traditional territory, along the Skeena River, 15 kilometres east of Terrace just off Highway 16. Kitselas Canyon contains a wealth of petroglyphs and the remains of what is now the only historic village on the Skeena River where remains of houses and totem poles from the 1800s still survive. The Kitselas First Nation, which has traditionally depended upon the salmon fishery for its subsistence, sought to re-establish elements of a traditional Kitselas village, an integrated cultural and eco-tourism initiative that would play a major role in their economic and cultural sustainability. Chris Knight put it this way, "we're creating the finest cultural tourism destination in Northwest Canada."

WD's non-repayable contribution under the Community Economic Adjustment Initiative will help the Kitselas First Nation establish a cultural centre overlooking the Skeena river, develop a trail system enhanced with totem poles, signage, picnic tables and bathrooms. Proposed jet boat tours will take tourists from the Cultural Centre along the Skeena River, providing breathtaking views of the Kitselas Canyon scenery. This project will create 10 full-time jobs in Kitselas – a hard-hit, Aboriginal community where unemployment stands at over 40 per cent – and, eventually, more employment opportunities from the expected spin-off businesses in the service, hospitality, and eco-tourism industries that will be created to serve the growing number of visitors.

The Kitselas Canyon Historic Site project started in 1971 as a partnership between the Kitselas First Nation and Parks Canada. In 1972, the Government of Canada declared Kitselas Canyon a National Historic Site. Over the 30 years since then, Parks Canada has continued to help with preservation, reconstruction and interpretation, engineering, and blueprints. The Kitselas Band has also cooperated with the Canadian Museum of Civilization and the Royal British Columbia Museum to identify and salvage important cultural sites. The City of Terrace helped with development advice and negotiated a Cultural Tourism Cooperation Protocol with the Band.

More in-kind contributions came for a variety of project needs: for materials, transportation, equipment, the use of boats. BC Hydro contributed \$20,000, Skeena Cellulose \$57,700, Bell Pole \$150,000, and the Kitselas Band Council invested \$180,350 of its own money, the CEAI made a \$250,000 non-repayable contribution. But how do you put a price on the in-kind support over the last thirty years and in the future? For the members of the CEAI Steering Committee it's simply one example of the public-private partnerships that were forged on the coast to bridge people and communities to economic activity outside the fishery.

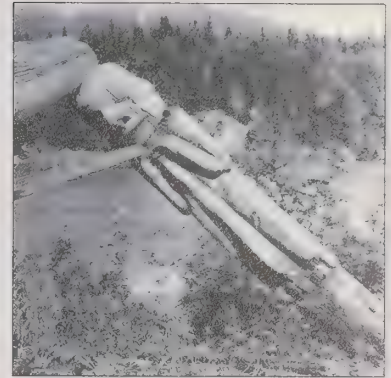
Recreational Fishery Loan Program

\$6.7 million, program concluded

850 Jobs Created or Maintained in BC's Recreational Fishing Sector

The coastal Community Futures Development Corporations, who delivered the Recreational Fishery Loan program on behalf of WD, made \$6.7 million in repayable loans: 86 loans totalling \$2.1 million to charter-boat operators, and 58 loans totalling \$4.6 million to lodge owners. Virtually all (95.7 per cent) of the funds had been loaned out.

Funds were loaned out for projects ranging from development and marketing of sustainable adventure programs including: sea kayaking, hiking treks,



"The Kitselas, People of the Canyon, were a Tsimshian-speaking tribe who traditionally occupied the first canyon of the Skeena River, about 16 kilometres upstream from the modern community of Terrace. Archaeological research of the middle Skeena River area in 1968 revealed a large range of prehistoric material dating back at least 4,000 years at the Gitaus village below the canyon."

—Source: www.kitselas.bc.ca

The Gitselasu: The People of Kitselas Canyon

The Recreational Fishery Loan Program was created in February 1999 to help owners of fishing lodges and charter-boat operators deal with the immediate and future impacts of changes in the Pacific salmon fishery.

The \$7 million program, administered by Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD) and delivered by the 13 coastal Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDC), provided access to credit for the development of business strategies and the transition to a more selective, sustainable and diversified sport-fishing operation.

WD's program provided working capital loans (at prime) of up to \$100,000 to owners of fishing lodges and \$25,000 to charter-boat operators. There was an interest holiday to December 31, 1999, and no payment was required until December 31, 2000.

nature/wildlife tours, romantic getaways and corporate retreats, to the building of a wharf, the upgrade of a power supply to lessen noise and emissions, and marketing.

The Government of Canada established this new program to facilitate access to immediate credit for fishing lodge owners and charter-boat operators who wanted to attract a broader group of clientele, including eco tourists and diversify to new species.

Accordingly, the CFDCs made repayable loans to:

- persons who could demonstrate that their lodge or charter-boat business was dependent on salmon, and who developed a formal business plan for the 1999 season to diversify their operation and/or make it more selective; and
- businesses that faced difficulties accessing capital at commercial institutions.

According to the information contained in the loan applications, the Recreational Fishery Loan Program enabled the operations to create or maintain a total of 850 jobs in BC's recreational fishing sector and leveraged an additional \$3.1 million in investments.

Vessel Tie-Up:

\$9.1 million, program concluded

In 1998, the vessel tie-up program made one-time only payments of \$9.1 million to 1,266 salmon vessel owners, roughly 38% of the salmon fleet at that time. Commercial salmon licence fees were suspended for 1998, and payments for pre-season costs incurred were made to vessel owners who chose not to fish in 1998.

Rebuilding the Resource

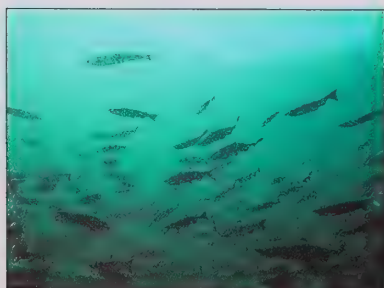
\$100 million over five years

All initiatives under the Resource Rebuilding component of PFAR will continue until 2003.

Pacific Salmon Endowment Fund:

\$30 million committed

The Pacific Salmon Endowment Fund (PSEF) is a focused and long-term approach to conserving and rebuilding salmon stocks. Mobilizing people to work together in effective partnerships is a cornerstone of the fund, which was publicly launched in February 2001 by Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Herb Dhaliwal and community leader Rick Hansen.



Resource Rebuilding contributed \$30 million to kick off the fund, which will use investment interest to support salmon conservation in priority areas of the Pacific Region. Mr. Hansen — well-known for his Man in Motion World Tour, his work to find a cure for spinal cord injury and his involvement in environmental issues — has, at the Minister's request, taken on leadership of the fund.

Mr. Hansen has assembled an impressive team of partners to assist him. Mr. Hansen is interim chair of the Pacific Salmon Endowment Fund Society, a non-profit organization that holds the \$30 million in trust and administers the fund. The society's board of directors is comprised of distinguished community leaders (see box for more details), while a team of scientists, technical advisors and provincial and federal government representatives provide advice.

Another key partner is the Pacific Salmon Foundation, the fund's program manager. It's role is to manage the funding applications, review and select projects, allocate funds, monitor and evaluate projects, and build partnerships.

The Vancouver Foundation is the fund's steward, managing and investing the capital. The initial six-month interest is estimated to be about \$750,000, with the initial annual interest being about \$1.5 million. But this is just the beginning. The annual interest is expected to increase over time as the fund's capital grows through contributions from donors, and public and private sector partners.

To ensure maximum long-term and lasting benefits from limited funding in the initial years, the endowment fund will focus on priority areas and activities. The goal is to be more strategic about salmon rebuilding and to invest funds wisely. To begin with, the fund is focusing on targeted watersheds within three main priority regions of the province. This focus will broaden with time.

The priority regions are:

- Thompson-Shuswap river system (coho and steelhead stocks);
- Georgia Basin (coho and steelhead stocks); and,
- Central Coast (sockeye stocks in Rivers and Smith inlets).

The first targeted watersheds are the Englishman River on Vancouver Island (Georgia Basin) and the Coldwater River in the Southern Interior (Thompson Shuswap). The first step is the development of salmon recovery plans for these watersheds that will guide the conservation and rebuilding of stocks in a strategic, scientifically based manner.

Good progress is being made on these initial recovery plans with the input of local First Nations, Streamkeepers, forest companies, ranchers, landowners, provincial agencies and community leaders. Participating First Nations include the Nanoose Band, Coldwater Band, Nicola Watershed Stewardship and Fisheries Authority and Nicola Tribal Council. The Pacific Salmon Foundation and technical consultants from LGL Limited are coordinating this process, including community meetings.

For each watershed, information is being collected about the state of salmon and their habitat, environmental issues, local fisheries, the potential and requirements for recovery and current restoration activities as a basis for the watershed plans. The level of interest and cooperation in the process from people in the community is high, and there has been a positive response to the long-term commitment being made by the permanent endowment fund.

The recovery plans will identify priority issues that need to be addressed in each watershed and determine activities that require priority funding. The first draft of the recovery plans, which will be living documents that adjust to new realities, will be developed by the summer of 2001. At that time, decisions can be made on how to apply the first portion of the endowment income for activities.

Examples of projects that could be funded include, but are not limited to:

- Protecting and restoring habitat;
- Restoring fish access to critical habitat;
- Restoring adequate water flows;
- Improving freshwater and marine survival;
- Providing information for fisheries management;
- Employing selective harvesting methods; and,
- Education.

In addition to the Coldwater and Englishman rivers, other key watersheds within the three priority regions will be identified this year for the next recovery plans.

Working in partnership

The Pacific Salmon Endowment Fund's partnerships are continuing to expand. The original team includes:

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) provided the initial \$30 million to kick off the fund. DFO staff are providing technical support and advice.

Pacific Salmon Endowment Fund Society is overseeing the operation of the fund, setting program priorities, and is the custodian of the \$30 million in trust. The society's board of directors is:

Rick Hansen, president and CEO of the Rick Hansen Institute.

Ron Dumouchelle, president and CEO of the United Way of the Lower Mainland.

John Fraser, chair of the Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council and former Member of Parliament.

Bryan Williams, legal council for Miller Thomson LLP and former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of BC

Milton Wong, chair of HSBC Asset Management Canada Ltd. and chancellor of Simon Fraser University.

Arnold (Buddy) Recalma, hereditary and past elected chief of the Qualicum Band and commercial fisher.

Pacific Salmon Foundation is the fund's program manager.

Vancouver Foundation is the steward of the fund.

LGL Limited is providing technical advice and assistance with the recovery plans.

BC government officials are technical advisors.

Habitat Restoration and Salmon Enhancement Program (HRSEP):

\$3.6 million in 00/01 – \$21 million to date

Providing financial and technical support to community projects seeking to improve the health of salmon stocks and fish habitat is the role of the Habitat Restoration and Salmon Enhancement Program (HRSEP). In its final year, 2001/02, the program is contributing \$5 million to projects, many of which will benefit weak salmon stocks such as coho, across the Pacific Region.

Including this fiscal year, the program has made available more than \$36 million to salmon conservation projects since 1997/98. Of that total amount, Resource Rebuilding has provided more than \$21 million, with the balance of \$15 million coming from the Pacific Salmon Revitalization Strategy.

Over the past five years, HRSEP has supported more than 550 projects involving communities and the federal government working in partnership to conserve salmon stocks and improve the quantity and quality of fish habitat. Community partners have included First Nations, salmon enhancement societies, schools, industry, environmental and fishing groups and municipal and regional governments.

The following are the types of projects undertaken:

- Habitat restoration in local streams, rivers and estuaries, to improve salmon survival. This includes building side-channels, stabilizing stream banks, improving water flows, planting riparian vegetation and adding spawning gravel.
- Improving watershed stewardship to lead to sustainable salmon populations. This includes stream inventories, habitat mapping, adult and juvenile fish monitoring and protecting habitat through watershed planning.
- Rebuilding salmon stocks through short-term enhancement projects that help bolster weak populations and complement habitat restoration and fisheries management. Possible activities include incubation and rearing programs and the marking of juvenile fish to assess survival.

Project proposals are reviewed by committees made up of Fisheries and Oceans staff, First Nations, representatives of provincial agencies such as the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks and delegates from community stewardship groups.



The following is an example of projects selected for 2001/02:

■ **Horsefly River** (150 Mile House) – \$26,000

The Quesnel River Watershed Alliance is continuing a pilot project to work with ranchers to promote good stewardship for the benefit of fish. The project is hiring local youth to build fences, replant and care for riparian vegetation, maintain cattle diversion methods, and conduct winter monitoring.

■ **Shuswap Lake** (Chase) – \$24,000

The Little Shuswap Indian Band is monitoring the number of coho salmon spawners in 14 tributaries, including observing for data tags. Information will be forwarded weekly to Fisheries and Oceans to assist in coho management.

■ **Salmon River** (Langley) – \$78,000

The Fraser River Fishermen's Society is assessing the wild coho numbers on the Salmon River to assist fisheries managers with information on freshwater and ocean survival, exploitation rates and trends in spawning numbers. The project provides jobs and training for under-employed fishers, students and area residents, as well as education for the public.

■ **Henderson Lake** (Port Alberni) – \$75,000

The Uchucklesaht Tribe is using the Henderson Lake Hatchery to rebuild sockeye and chinook salmon stocks in Clemens Creek and transplanting chinook stocks in Henderson River. The project is also providing scientific data on the number of returning spawners, and their timing and migration patterns.

■ **Peel and Skidegate inlets** (Queen Charlotte Islands) – \$73,000

The Hecate Strait Streamkeepers is improving salmon habitat by creating rearing areas and building spawning platforms for chum, pink and coho. The project will provide training, create jobs and raise public awareness of watershed stewardship.

■ **Kitwanga River** – \$45,000

The Gitanyow Fisheries Authority is counting the number of adult salmon returning to spawn and assessing the quality and quantity of spawning grounds. The information will be used to help rebuild sockeye stocks.

■ **Prince Rupert and Port Edward harbours** – \$30,000

The Community Fisheries Development Centre is surveying the distribution of young salmon in the foreshore areas. The information will be used to more effectively plan foreshore developments that are less damaging to salmon habitat.

■ **McQuesten River** (Mayo) – \$18,000

The First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun and the Yukon Lands and Resource Department are testing three groundwater sites for success in chinook salmon egg incubation. The project is also testing the feasibility of using a Yukon Energy incubation facility for raising and releasing fry to McQuesten River.



Habitat Conservation and Stewardship Program:

\$10 million in 00/01 – \$23.2 million to date

Building partnerships in communities to strengthen the stewardship of watersheds is crucial to preventing damage to fish habitat and protecting salmon stocks. It is also the focus of an innovative element of Resource Rebuilding called the Habitat Conservation and Stewardship Program (HCSP).

The program has hired more than 100 qualified individuals across BC and the Yukon to work with community groups, First Nations, landowners and local governments to promote stewardship and proactive habitat protection and to advocate for fish and fish habitat. The objectives are to: increase community involvement in watershed management, increase awareness of fish habitat requirements and protect fish habitat in local land and water use plans.

This network of new positions is funded and coordinated through HCSP. The stewards work as a team with existing Fisheries and Oceans Canada staff, such as community advisors – who support enhancement and stewardship groups – habitat biologists, technicians and fishery officers.

There are four types of stewards:

- **Stewardship coordinators** work for community partners such as stewardship groups, First Nations and non-government groups. They help advocate for fish and fish habitat protection, encourage community involvement, participate in watershed planning and coordinate training for community volunteers.
- **Habitat stewards** are technical field personnel that work mainly for local government agencies. The focus of their efforts is to prevent damage to habitat, by working proactively with stakeholders. They provide technical information for improved planning and decision-making and Best Management Practices.

■ **Habitat auxiliaries** are technical field personnel that work as Fisheries and Oceans employees. They review and monitor land development projects, give advice on habitat protection guidelines and legal requirements under the *Fisheries Act*, and provide technical information for improved development planning and decision-making.



■ **Habitat fishery officers** are Fisheries and Oceans Canada staff who focus on enforcing the habitat provisions of the *Fisheries Act*, including investigating violations. They will also work closely with public groups, watershed councils and industry to promote understanding of and compliance with the *Fisheries Act* and proactive habitat protection.

All positions will provide public education on fish needs and habitat impacts, support local habitat restoration and salmon enhancement projects and promote a stewardship ethic in watersheds.

Partnerships are key to the program. As such, all partners were invited to a mid-term meeting this spring in Vancouver to take stock of the program's progress, share ideas and experiences, identify challenges and determine how to improve the program in the final years. About 250 people participated at the four-day event, which included stewardship groups, volunteers, industries, First Nations, and representatives from municipal/regional government and provincial agencies.

Strategic Stock Enhancement:

\$3.3 million in 00/01 – \$6.9 million to date

Addressing serious conservation concerns for endangered stocks is the work of the Strategic Stock Enhancement Program. First Nations, community groups and industry are partners in the initiative.

In the first three years, the program has focused on saving stocks in imminent danger of extinction, such as coho salmon from the Thompson and Upper Skeena rivers, summer chinook from the Puntledge River and sockeye from Rivers and Smith inlets. Strategic Stock Enhancement is continuing to use short-term fish culture and salmon hatcheries to augment these endangered stocks, while maintaining stock integrity and genetic diversity.

The intent is to arrest the decline of endangered stocks so they can rebuild when ocean conditions improve. Strategic enhancement is designed for conservation, not to support or supplement fisheries, and must be coupled with harvest management and habitat protection.

While continuing the enhancement of selected stocks, the program in the final two years will also assess how its activities may have helped to maintain endangered runs. The program's first adult salmon will be returning to spawn in 2001/02. The program will also focus on proactive measures, such as developing fish sustainability plans for key watersheds. These plans — involving a partnership of government, First Nations, stakeholders, conservationists and stakeholders — aim to coordinate efforts to ensure effective, long-term conservation of fish and habitat. Potential watersheds for such plans include the Skeena (Upper Bulkley), Salmon River and Duteau Creek (South Thompson), as well as Nimpkish, Campbell, Bute Inlet and Bella Coola.

For the Upper Skeena, enhancement efforts have targeted coho stocks for the Upper Bulkley, Babine, Morice and Morrison rivers; and Toboggan and Upper Owen creeks. Future enhancement will concentrate on the Upper Bulkley coho stocks.

For the Thompson River system, enhancement actions have targeted coho stocks for the Coldwater, Deadman, Bridge, Eagle and Middle Shuswap rivers; and Spius, Louis, Lemieux, Dunn and Duteau creeks. Future efforts will focus on endangered stocks that have not responded to harvest limits, such as the Salmon River and Duteau Creek coho.

For the Puntledge River, a captive breeding program is continuing to rear summer chinook to maturity at the Rosewall Creek Hatchery. These fish will yield eggs in 2001, with a target of one million eggs per year.

In the Central Coast, work is continuing to enhance Rivers and Smith inlet sockeye salmon as part of a recovery plan for those stocks. This recovery plan will support the development of a fish sustainability plan. The feasibility of enriching Oweekeno Lake by the addition of fertilizer to increase sockeye productivity will also be assessed.

PACIFIC FISHERIES ADJUSTMENT AND RESTRUCTURING PROGRAM

| | June 00 – 01 | Total to date |
|--|-----------------|------------------|
| Restructuring the Fishery: | | |
| Licence Retirement | concl. | 195.9M |
| Selective Fishing | 4.7M | 18.5M |
| Fisheries Development | 1.2M | 3.5M |
| Tourism Promotion | concl. | 4.8M |
| Salmon Licence Fee Remission | concl. | 1.8M |
| Community Economic Development and Adjustment: | | |
| Adjustment | 7.8M | 30.0M |
| Vessel Tie-Up | concl. | 9.1M |
| Community Economic Adjustment Initiative | 10.1M | 25.0M |
| Recreational Fishing Loan Program | concl. | 6.7M |
| Rebuilding the Resource: | | |
| Pacific Salmon Endowment Fund * | — | 30.0M |
| Habitat Restoration and Salmon Enhancement Program (HRSEP) | 3.6M | 21.2M |
| Community Stewardship | 10.0M | 23.2M |
| Strategic Enhancement | 3.3M | 6.9M |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES TO JULY 31, 2001 | \$ 40.7M | \$ 376.6M |

* \$30 million has been endowed for this fund, although individual project expenditures have yet to begin.



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